

just for the plaintiffs, the defendants, and the particular plan.

I thank the Chair, and yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Hampshire is recognized.

Mr. GREGG. What is the regular order?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The regular order would be to lay the bill before the Senate.

Mr. GREGG. I thank the Chair.

#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

#### EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN SECURITY AND RECONSTRUCTION ACT, 2004

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1689, which the clerk will read.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1689) making emergency appropriations for Iraq and Afghanistan security and reconstruction for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Byrd amendment No. 1818, to impose a limitation on the use of sums appropriated for the Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund.

Byrd/Durbin amendment No. 1819, to prohibit the use of Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Funds for low priority activities that should not be the responsibility of U.S. taxpayers, and shift \$600 million from the Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund to Defense Operations and Maintenance, Army, for significantly improving efforts to secure and destroy conventional weapons, such as bombs, bomb materials, small arms, rocket propelled grenades, and shoulder-launched missiles, in Iraq.

Reid (for Stabenow) amendment No. 1823, to provide emergency relief for veterans healthcare, school construction, healthcare and transportation needs in the United States, and to create 95,000 new jobs.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I wish to speak briefly. I understand the Senator from North Dakota is also going to speak. I want to talk on this piece of legislation but, more importantly, on the overall approach we take toward fighting terrorism as a nation.

First off, as to this bill, which is obviously an extraordinarily expensive bill—over \$80 billion, much of which goes to support our forces in Iraq, which is absolutely critical, and some of which goes to assisting in the rebuilding of Iraq—many of my colleagues and others have questioned the dollars going to the rebuilding of Iraq and whether that is an appropriate way to spend American tax dollars. I think, however, we have to look at this issue not from the standpoint of whether it is benefiting Iraq but whether it is benefiting us, the American people.

I don't think there is any question but that it benefits the American people. Our purpose here is to defeat terrorism. Our purpose here is to undermine the capacity of those people who would use violence against Americans

and against our system and against our Nation. We learned from 9/11, regrettably, that there are, unfortunately, groups out there who subscribe to what is known as Muslim fundamentalism, who are willing to pervert the Muslim faith, and who wish to pursue actions of violence against us as a nation, and against Americans as people, simply because we exist. For whatever reasons, they see us as their enemies, and there are a variety of reasons, which I will not go into. They obviously have the capacity and have shown their willingness to do us damage and harm. We have to respond to that.

Fortunately, we have a President who understands this—understands it in a way that I think many of us don't fully appreciate. I happen to, however, greatly admire it. The fact is, in President Bush we have someone who is very focused on the issue of protecting the United States and all Americans, defeating the threat of terrorism, and finding terrorists and bringing them to justice before they can do us harm. As part of that effort, there is a philosophy that I think is very appropriate that we are pursuing as a nation, which is that we will go out and find the terrorists before they can find us. We will kick over the rocks under which they hide and bring them to justice in whatever manner is appropriate—before they can get out from underneath the rocks under which they hide and plan to attack us. The basic theory is to cause the terrorists to worry about where they are going to sleep tonight rather than to be thinking about whom they are going to attack tomorrow.

It requires an aggressive international policy, but it is a policy directed at protecting us, Americans, across our Nation, giving us a better opportunity of avoid another 9/11, another attack on our country on our soil. As part of that effort, we have replaced a dictatorial, repressive, genocidal, maniacal regime in Iraq, a regime which clearly represented a threat to its neighbors and was a breeding ground for terrorists and a potential, if not real, supporter of those who would do us harm in the United States.

The strategy of the war was brilliantly executed by our military, our men and women. We have to admire their courage, their expertise, and the manner in which they comported themselves in Iraq. Their success militarily is in large part due to the fact that we are willing to spend our national treasury to support them, and we must continue to do that. That is what this supplemental is about.

So supporting our troops with the dollars they need and the equipment they require is a given. There is no one in this body who would question that.

The second part is the rebuilding of Iraq. Why is that important to us as a nation? Well, if we are going to undermine the fundamentalist Muslim terrorist threat, we must undermine their breeding ground, where they are able to recruit, and their philosophy for recruitment.

We have been extremely successful as a nation so far, I believe, in pursuing a tactical war against terrorists, and we can continue this tactical war and we will probably have to continue it for years to come. By that I mean finding the terrorists, following the dollars, tracking them down, using our expertise, our intelligence capability, and our military to neutralize their ability to attack us—whether it is in Afghanistan, Iraq, Buffalo, or Seattle—finding them before they can do us harm, eliminating their resources and sources of resources, and working an international coalition of law enforcement agencies and military forces that is capable of doing them physical harm before they can do us physical harm.

That is a tactical approach. It is one that is being pursued with great aggressiveness at all sorts of different levels—internationally, of course, and obviously in Iraq and Iran, but across the globe, such as in the Philippines and India and Pakistan, and domestically with the creation of the Homeland Security Department and the restructuring of our own domestic law enforcement community.

But that is tactical. That means you find the individual or the cell, you find the group of fundamentalist terrorists who are gathered together, you get the information on where they are, you disrupt them and, if you can bring them to justice, you do. That is tactical. That is not going to resolve the problem for us because, regrettably, no matter how you look at this, if you are honest about it, there is a cultural and a religious issue involved.

There are a billion people in this world who subscribe to the Muslim faith. It is a strong and good faith with an incredible history. But if only 1 percent of those billion people are attracted to the perversion of that faith and follow a Muslim fundamentalist view of the world—terrorist view of the world—that is 10 million people. That is potentially 10 million people who want to do us physical harm. Hopefully, it is not that high.

So if we are to pursue a lasting resolution of this issue, a tactical approach will keep us, hopefully, safer, but it will not resolve the underlying problem. We need much more of a strategic approach, something that looks at the forces which create the threat and undermines those forces. That is where the issue of addressing the reconstruction of Iraq comes in. There are a variety of ways we can address people who are members of the Muslim faith, especially in the Middle East and show them that we, as a nation, are not a threat to them but are actually an avenue of opportunity. But today those options don't really exist in the Middle East.

If we can prove to people who subscribe to the Muslim faith and might